

Florin Japanese American Citizens League
Oral History Project

Oral History Interview

with

GRACE KYOKO NODA

March 28, 2003
Davis, California

By Joanne Iritani

Florin Japanese American Citizens League
and
Oral History Program
California State University, Sacramento
Sacramento, California

Florin JACL Oral History Project

Japanese American Citizens League, Florin Chapter

MISSION STATEMENT

To collect and preserve the historical record of the multigenerational experience of Japanese Americans and others who befriended them. The books produced will enhance the California State University, Sacramento/Japanese American Archival Collection (CSUS/JAAC) housed in the CSUS Archives for study, research, teaching and exhibition. This unique collection of life histories provides a permanent resource for the use of American and international scholars, researchers and faculty, as well as a lesson for future generations to appreciate the process of protecting and preserving the United States Constitution and America's democratic principles.

PREFACE

The Florin JACL Oral History Project provides completed books and tapes of Oral Histories presented to the interviewed subjects, to the California State University, Sacramento/Japanese American Archival Collection (CSUS/JAAC), and to the Florin JACL Chapter. Copyright is held by the Florin JACL Chapter and California State University, Sacramento. Photocopying is limited to a maximum of 20 pages per volume.

This project will continue the mission of the Florin JACL Oral History Project which began in 1987 and recognized the necessity of interviewing Japanese Americans: "We have conducted these interviews with feelings of urgency. If we are to come away with lessons from this historic tragedy, we must listen to and become acquainted with the people who were there. Many of these historians are in their seventies, eighties and nineties. We are grateful that they were willing to share their experiences and to answer our questions with openness and thoughtfulness." This same urgency to conduct interviews was felt by the North Central Valley JACL Chapters of French Camp, Lodi, Placer County, and Stockton in 1997-98 as a consortium joining the Florin Chapter in obtaining funding from the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund (CLPEF). And, again under the Florin Chapter banner, more life histories had been told with the generous funding from the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP). This program is now being funded by the Florin JACL Oral History Project.

The Oral Histories in the Japanese American Archival Collection relate the personal stories of the events surrounding the exclusion, forced removal and internment of American citizens and permanent resident aliens of Japanese ancestry. There is a wide variety of interviews of former internees, military personnel, people who befriended the Japanese Americans, Caucasians who worked in the internment camps and others, whose stories will serve to inform the public of the fundamental injustice of the government's action in the detention of the Japanese aliens and "non-aliens" (the government's designation of U.S. citizens), so that the causes and circumstances of this and similar events may be illuminated and understood.

The population of those who lived through the World War II years is rapidly diminishing, and in a few years, will altogether vanish. Their stories must be preserved for the historians and researchers today and in the future.

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INTERVIEWER

Joanne Iritani is a member of the Japanese American Citizens League, the United Methodist Church as well as other human relations/multicultural organizations.

Joanne, a Poston Camp Internee, is past president of Florin JACL, Education chair, and retired special education teacher with a master's degree from California State University, Bakersfield.

She and her husband, Frank, are authors of *Ten Visits Revised*, which is a guidebook to the ten Japanese American relocation centers.

INTERVIEW TIME AND PLACE

March 28, 2003

Home of Grace Kyoko Noda
340 Mills Drive
Davis, California 95616

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs were obtained from Grace Kyoko Noda

TYPING AND EDITING

Hideko (Heidi) Sakazaki, member of Florin JACL, JACL/CSUS Oral History Project, and retired Staff Services Manager of California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board, transcribed the manuscript. Editing was done by Joanne Iritani and Grace Kyoko Noda

TAPES AND INTERVIEW RECORDS

Copies of the bound transcript and the original tapes will be kept by Florin Japanese American Citizens League and in the University Archives Library, California State University, Sacramento, 2000 University Drive, Sacramento, California 95819.

BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY

Grace Kyoko Noda was born in 1920 in Berkeley, California. Her mother, Yoshiko Imamoto, was a picture bride, married by proxy to James Zenichi Nakamoto in 1918. They were from Yamaguchi Prefecture in Japan. He was a *yoshi*, taking his wife's family name, Imamoto. The parents had decided that the first child will have the last name Imamoto, the father's new last name, and the other children would be given his original last name Nakamoto. So Grace as the eldest child was given a different last name from her sisters. It was surely confusing to the children.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Imamoto were well educated in Japan. Mrs. Imamoto graduated from high school and attended sewing school in Tokyo. Mr. Imamoto had come to America in 1913, graduated from Berkeley High School and attended UC Berkeley for two years. Mrs. Imamoto came to America after the proxy ceremony and the couple was married by a Presbyterian minister. Mr. Imamoto worked for the Japanese Association in San Francisco and commuted from Berkeley by ferry boat. He studied Greek and German and moved his family of three daughters to Garden Grove in southern California when he became a Japanese language teacher. One more daughter was born in southern California. Mr. Imamoto learned to drive and provided the transportation for all the students of the Japanese language school.

Grace was determined to attend UC Berkeley and her local high school was not accredited with UC Berkeley. Her goal was to go to Berkeley. So she lived and worked with a family in another high school area. She enrolled at Berkeley in 1938 and was supposed to graduate in June 1942. World War II began in December 1941 and Executive Order 9066 was signed in February. Before the travel limit was in place, Grace returned to her family in Garden Grove. All Japanese language teachers were arrested by the FBI including her father and mother. The three girls, 15, 18 and 21 were left by themselves, so Grace, the eldest at 22 returned home. Their mother was released to join the girls in Santa Anita Racetrack Assembly Center. The family was then sent to Jerome, Arkansas, in January 1943, and their father joined them in 1944. Grace taught music in Jerome and was paid \$19 a month while the Caucasian teacher received a salary of \$300 a month.

In 1948, Grace went to Japan as a member of the American Friends Service Committee and worked with children of Japanese refugees from areas such as Manchuria and Korea. She had an opportunity to meet her grandmother and other relatives while working in Japan.

In 1951 Grace taught in the Richmond School District and in 1955 married Grant Noda, a biochemist at UC Berkeley, moving to UC Davis Botany Department in 1958. Grace had two daughters when she was in her late thirties and now has two grandchildren.

Grace was busy taking care of her mother in Berkeley staying there three days each week until her mother entered the Asian Nursing Home at age 100. She died recently. Grace is a caring community volunteer. Her volunteer activities are for the American Friends Service Committee on Legislation and working with a mental health organization, Pine Tree Garden.

[TAPE 1, SIDE A]

IRITANI: I am Joanne Iritani of the Florin JACL¹ Oral History Project. Today's date is March 28, 2003. I am at the home of Grace Kyoko Noda in Davis, [California] to interview her, and my particular interest was that a few years ago I learned from her at our Florin JACL Time of Remembrance Program that her mother was a Japanese language school teacher and had been taken by the FBI², and I am particularly interested in that part of her story. But I am also interested in her life story, and so I am going to have you begin with your own parents' story as much as you were told--as much as you remember, and "I don't know" is a good answer at any time. So I will interrupt and ask for clarification periodically, but basically I want you to tell your story and your parents' story--the family story as well. So would you like to begin?

NODA: Well, my father--he . . .

IRITANI: You want to start with names.

NODA: Well, my father, James Zenichi Imamoto, didn't say too much about his background at all. He was also born in Yamaguchi [Japan], but not close

¹ JACL: Japanese American Citizens League, non-profit Asian American civil rights organization

² FBI: Federal Bureau of Investigation

to my mother [Yoshiko Imamoto]. The reason mother married my father is that he had a sister who knew my mother's family. And through that, you know, the picture exchange, mother was selected.

IRITANI: Do you know about what year they were married?

NODA: They were married in 1918 when she came in December.

IRITANI: In December.

NODA: Yes, but actually they were married in Japan by her. . . . Her name was transferred to his family, you know, what is it--the seki³?

IRITANI: Right.

NODA: She was registered with my father's family, so she came . . .

IRITANI: It was a proxy marriage.

NODA: Proxy marriage, yes. He did have one sister, and then she passed away so my dad had an aunt who did not have any boys, and so my father was adopted by my aunt, so here . . .

IRITANI: When he was a child?

NODA: Well, I think he was older. So he had both Imamoto name and a Nakamoto name. So he said that he was told that when he had his own children, the first child would take my father's last name, Imamoto, and the rest of the family would take Nakamoto. So I had funny experiences as a child because I thought I was adopted because I had only Imamoto and my three sisters had Nakamoto.

IRITANI: Oh, that's different.

³ seki: Adopted family name

- NODA: He was a yoshi⁴ into this other family.
- IRITANI: Your aunt was over here already?
- NODA: No, no--in Japan.
- IRITANI: In Japan.
- NODA: Yes. She had no children.
- IRITANI: But he was a yoshi over here, meaning that he was called over here by someone here in America.
- NODA: He came as a teenager, so he went to . . .
- IRITANI: So, yoshi is just when you go into a family.
- NODA: Into a family, yes.
- IRITANI: Oh, yes. So he was adopted.
- NODA: So it was complicated. And mother said that if she knew that he was a yoshi she wasn't going to marry him. [LAUGHTER] You know, she was kidding. Mother had quite a few in her family. I think there were either five or seven and she is one of the--in the middle, and, ah, what was I going to say . . .
- IRITANI: Her family.
- NODA: Oh, my grandfather was like an officer in the community where he lived. He was looked up to because of his leadership. And he was quite internationally minded because he didn't mind that his girls were going elsewhere because one of the sisters--her sister went to Chosen, which is Korea. Another went to--I forgot what other country, but they were

4 Yoshi: Adopted son

scattered all over, you know.

IRITANI: Do you know that grandfather's name?

NODA: Nobuyuki Iwamasa.

IRITANI: Oh, that would-- Iwamoto?

NODA: Iwamasa. That was the maiden name of my mother.

IRITANI: Oh, Nobuyuki. (My grandfather's first name.)

NODA: Yes.

IRITANI: Iwamasa, okay. (Surname)

NODA: And the house where--the same house where she was born is still a family house.

IRITANI: Oh, really?

NODA: When my mother went back after 60 years, she got to see the same place. They improved it by having modern American toilets and things like that, and my oldest cousin is now in charge because his father died. His father is my mother's oldest brother and he lived to be 105.

IRITANI: Oh, my!

NODA: Yes. So they all seem to be around a hundred, and I went to visit my grandmother right after the war.

IRITANI: About 1940 . . .

NODA: 1948-- some where around there. Yes, I was in Japan for two years and at that time I went to visit them, so my grandmother told me that this mountain was--they owned the land, but after the war they had to, you

know, cut back, and the government took over. But there is a family plot. They made it sort of. . . . At first when I went to see him in '48, my grandfather was buried up in the mountains and he had this wonderful headstone --what do you call those stones, you know, that he himself had carved.

IRITANI: Oh, really!

NODA: Yes, and my grandmother was not there yet but it was in the garden at home. He was a beautiful calligrapher. You know, it's hard work to do that. But he did that. And now, the only people who live in that community could be buried there when they die, so a lot of my cousins don't live there anymore; therefore, they can't be buried there. But the cemetery is called yaji--yajimura.

IRITANI: Yajimura.

NODA: Yaji. Mura is country, you know.

IRITANI: Right. Village.

NODA: Village, yes. So, Yaji. People who live there can be buried there. So even if my mother--you know, when my mother died, I had her cremated. I couldn't take her ashes there because there is no. . . . She didn't live there, you know, in 60 years.

IRITANI: Right.

NODA: And the next service otera⁵, and, you know, they have this hoji⁶ when somebody dies--well, my grandfather had been dead for 50 years, so they

⁵ otera: Buddhist temple

⁶ hoji: Buddhist mass

had his 50th hoji, which is a final last one, and my grandmother had been dead for 25 years, so, you know, there's that big separation, because she was quite a young person, and the otera--the son of the priest that she knew and grew up with, listening to his sermons, did the service for him. My mother said she just cried the whole time, you know--overwhelming to hear about her parents again, because she hadn't seen them.

IRITANI: What year was that, that she went?

NODA: She went in 1980 . . .

IRITANI: Oh, in the '80s.

NODA: Yes, in the 1980s, somewhere, because it was 60 years after she . . .

IRITANI: She was quite able to get around.

NODA: Yes, at that time. And she's never gone back, because [she said] once she went she didn't need to go back again, but she did have a very nice time with her family.

IRITANI: That was her first visit back?

NODA: Yes, her first visit back.

IRITANI: In the '80s.

NODA: Uh-huh. So she didn't even have what is called a VISA⁷. Is it VISA--something that . . .

IRITANI: A passport.

NODA: She had a passport because she was an American citizen by then.

IRITANI: Well, let's go back to her own childhood. Did she talk about her

⁷ Visa: endorsement on a passport showing that a person has been granted official entry into or passage through a country.

experiences as a child?

NODA: No, she didn't. You mean my mother?

IRITANI: Your mother.

NODA: Oh, yes. She had a very happy relationship with her sisters and brothers, and her younger brother was quite a bit younger than her and they used to tease each other, you know, so that she said somebody who is shitashii⁸ is her brother because she fought with him.

IRITANI: What is shitashii?

NODA: Shitashii is familiar or very tender. She had a more tender care about him and although he was younger. He married. . . . He, himself, became a yoshi to a Yamamoto family in Los Angeles, so my aunt from Los Angeles is a strong one, you know, and my mother said he's sort of stupid to become a yoshi.

IRITANI: To become a yoshi. [LAUGHTER]

NODA: She thinks a person's character is not so strong this way.

IRITANI: To go to the other side.

NODA: Yes, right. So, anyway, they lived in the country so, naturally, they had lots of fun playing in the field because they had a rice paddy and I think they raised other things--oats or wheat or whatever, so she had experiences doing that. And she had an uncle who lived next door who was a shakuhachi⁹ player and so she enjoyed listening to music and, of course, she went to school. She also went to Tokyo to do her finishing school.

⁸ Shitashii: familiar, intimate, dear,

⁹ Shakuhachi: Vertical bamboo flute

- IRITANI: She went to school . . .
- NODA: Locally.
- IRITANI: Locally until what age did she finish?
- NODA: She finished high school and then she went to Tokyo for four years of sewing school. They learned to sew.
- IRITANI: Right. In preparation in becoming a bride--the whole story then.
- NODA: Yes.
- IRITANI: The thing is when you become a bride . . .
- NODA: That's right. So she had flower arrangement, she did tea ceremony, but not dancing. I don't think she cared to do any odori¹⁰.
- IRITANI: And then she was married after--was she working in sewing or just . . .
- NODA: I think she did it on her own, but I don't recall. Either that or . . .
- IRITANI: Not as an occupation.
- NODA: No, not as an occupation. By then, you know, she was ready to come here, I guess. [CHUCKLES] And my grandfather sent the ugliest picture of my mother, you know, when it came to picture bride. You know, sometimes some families would send a young picture, but my grandfather did just the opposite, but still my dad selected my mother. [LAUGHTER]
- IRITANI: You never know . . .
- NODA: Yes, that's right.
- IRITANI: . . .what appeals. And so they were married by proxy. He did not go back to Japan.
- NODA: No.

- IRITANI: He remained. Where was he living at the time?
- NODA: He was living in Berkeley.
- IRITANI: What kind of work was he doing?
- NODA: He was doing schoolboy job and going to school, because he went to Junior High School there and he went to Berkeley High School, and then he went two years to UC Berkeley.
- IRITANI: He had come in 1913 from Japan.
- NODA: I think also because he was a conscientious objector and he didn't want to be drafted, you know, into the Japanese Army.
- IRITANI: Into the Japanese Army. That was the reason for some to come as well as poverty, as well as family not having space for them for the second and third person, so his was as much to get away from the possible draft in Japan. And so they were married and she came in December of 1918. Did she come to San Francisco?
- NODA: She came to San Francisco and then she said she came with Mrs. Okamoto. Do you know Alice Uriu?
- IRITANI: No.
- NODA: She lives here in Davis. Her mother also came on the same ship with my mother.
- IRITANI: Do you remember the name of that ship? Did she ever tell?
- NODA: I think--I don't know, but they said she was very shy, you know, so she sort of stayed to herself a lot, but they had to go to Angel Island and then she came back and then dad and mother were married by a Presbyterian

¹⁰ odori: Japanese dancing

minister.

IRITANI: In San Francisco?

NODA: I think Reverend Terazara who became a good friend of my father.

IRITANI: Did they live in San Francisco?

NODA: They lived in Berkeley--on Berkeley Way. The house is still there where .

..

IRITANI: Oh, really?

NODA: Because I was born in 1920.

IRITANI: And his work was . . .

NODA: He was doing Nihonjinkai¹¹ work in San Francisco and he commuted by .

..

IRITANI: By train.

NODA: By boat. (Ferry)

IRITANI: Oh, that's right.

NODA: Ferry from Berkeley.

IRITANI: The bridge wasn't there.

NODA: The bridge wasn't there, and he didn't know how to drive.

IRITANI: By ferry, that's right. And then what is the . . . Since he worked for the Nihonjinkai, his work was connected with the Japanese government?

NODA: He was secretary. I don't think he was with the [Japanese] government. Maybe the work was--Japanese or something where he . . .

IRITANI: Association.

NODA: Association, because he had to keep track of all the people, you know . . .

- IRITANI: The Isseis¹² who had come over.
- NODA: So he was a secretary in that work--then going to school.
- IRITANI: OK. Do you know how much schooling he had in Japan before he came?
- NODA: No, I don't. But I think he had quite a bit because mother said that . . .
- IRITANI: Because he could do that reading and writing.
- NODA: Oh, yes, that's right.
- IRITANI: There were so many men that had to have somebody else do the reading and writing for them.
- NODA: That's right.
- IRITANI: So both your parents were educated well, and then when your mother came she had children after a few years?
- NODA: Yes.
- IRITANI: Very shortly.
- NODA: Very shortly. [CHUCKLES] Let's see. December is the end of '18. Nobody was born in 1919 and I was born in January 1920. In December 1920 my sister came, so we are 11 months apart, because she was a premie [premature].
- IRITANI: So that was all in Berkeley.
- NODA: Yes. Marion was also born in Berkeley. Then my father in the meantime had been studying so that he had quite a few languages. He studied French, he studied Greek, he studied German, because he could communicate with people in German very well.

¹¹ Nihonjinkai: Japanese Association

¹²¹² Issei

IRITANI: WOW!

NODA: And he passed certain tests to become a teacher--language teacher, so he taught--he got a job in Southern California. So we moved by--on a ship from Alameda to Los Angeles. Somebody picked us up.

IRITANI: By that time how many children . . .

NODA: There were three of us.

IRITANI: The three of you.

NODA: The youngest was born in Southern California.

IRITANI: The youngest's name is . . .

NODA: Alice Takemoto--the one in Washington.

IRITANI: And so you went to live in what area at Southern California?

NODA: Garden Grove.

IRITANI: Which is near . . .

NODA: In Orange County. It is a very nice community--very quiet, and he learned to drive in Garden Grove. He had to drive a school bus.

IRITANI: For the . . .

NODA: To pick up all the children.

IRITANI: For the Japanese language school?

NODA: Yes, because after school, we went to Japanese school, you know.

NODA: Right.

NODA: And then my father would take them home again and that was his job.

IRITANI: And he also taught?

NODA: He taught language.

IRITANI: The Japanese language.

NODA: Yes, at that time I think my mother--well, she must have taught part time but not full day. This is after school.

IRITANI: After school.

NODA: After school, yes. So I know I was able to--I started washing the rice for dinner and by then I must have been about--let me see--must have been about fourth grade when she went back to work.

IRITANI: It was always language school.

NODA: Yes, language school.

IRITANI: It wasn't any other school. So you children in turn started language school from the time you were six or . . .

NODA: Well, they tried to teach us correct speaking in Japanese at home, but I didn't go to formal language school until later.

IRITANI: About how old were you?

NODA: I think high school.

IRITANI: Oh, not until high school.

NODA: Because when I was sophomore in high school, I moved to Anaheim to do schoolgirl--you know, work my way through high school there. I wanted to go to a school that was accredited with UC Berkeley, because my goal was to go to Berkeley.

IRITANI: Go back to Berkeley University.

NODA: And Garden Grove was not accredited at that time.

IRITANI: Garden Grove High School?

- NODA: Yes.
- IRITANI: Oh, my!
- NODA: And so I used to walk a mile, carrying my cello and get on a bus.
- IRITANI: Oh, you were playing cello from the time you were what grade?
- NODA: Well, I think it was in high school I did play.
- IRITANI: Oh, you started at 15?
- NODA: Before high school.
- IRITANI: And that was all downtown.
- NODA: Yes, because I took piano, Alice took piano, Marion took violin, Lily took cello, and I learned the cello. But I didn't learn it too much--you know, I studied more in high school with my cello because I used to belong to a string ensemble.
- IRITANI: Oh, very good.
- NODA: We had fun. We didn't have any TVs in those days. [LAUGHTER] Not even a radio, so my dad tried to encourage us to take music because he liked music.
- IRITANI: Your parents were affiliated with the Japanese school all the time you were in Southern California.
- NODA: Yes. Once he left Garden Grove, he went to Terminal Island to teach but he still lived in Garden Grove, because Terminal Island was sort of a fishing village.
- IRITANI: It was.
- NODA: And he didn't think schools would be as good.

- IRITANI: So, actually, if you wanted to go to a University . . .
- NODA: Right.
- IRITANI: It was not in line.
- NODA: That's right. Although some of the Terminal Island people I met in college--they were good. [CHUCKLES]
- IRITANI: So, here you were. You completed your high school there at Anaheim while you were doing schoolgirl work. Were you living at home?
- NODA: No. I was living with a family and they are still good friends of mine. The oldest daughter and I went to Berkeley at the same time, so I used to see her.
- IRITANI: So this family . . .
- NODA: He was a pharmacist.
- IRITANI: What kind of work did you do?
- NODA: Oh, I was a mother's helper, like I helped prepare dinners every night. I used to come home after school on Mondays. I had different. . . . Tuesdays, I generally ironed and on Saturdays, sometimes--every other week I went home but during the week I was there I used to polish the silver, because, you know, they used good silver to eat. It was a Catholic family so there were six people in the family.
- IRITANI: You just--on the weekends, took the bus back to home?
- NODA: I think dad came after me.
- IRITANI: Oh, he did.
- NODA: Because that was about nine miles.

- IRITANI: He must have had his language school on the weekends too or was it just after school?
- NODA: Week days he had these kids but not on Saturdays.
- IRITANI: Oh, really! So, with some cases with children from the farms--that's the only time that they had Japanese language school.
- NODA: But this one here is because he picked them up--they had to go home. They came from the school to Japanese language school.
- IRITANI: Right. I think I'm going to turn this off from there. You completed your high school, you completed. . . . How much of the Japanese language school--do you remember about what book you were reading?
- NODA: No, because . . .
- IRITANI: Because you were unable to attend.
- NODA: I studied Japanese again in college.
- IRITANI: Oh, not until college.
- NODA: That's when I really used the books.
- IRITANI: When you were away from your family you were not attending Japanese language school.
- NODA: No, so I didn't really know too much about kanjis¹³. You know, I had to learn all of that when I became a freshman in college. My teacher was Mr. Susumu Nakamura and also Mrs. Florence Waln. She later taught the Japanese language school for soldiers in Colorado and of the --Ann Arbor, maybe.
- IRITANI: So you went from there to Berkeley?

- NODA: Berkeley, yes.
- IRITANI: You went as a freshman.
- NODA: As a freshman.
- IRITANI: In what year?
- NODA: 1938 of September . . .
- IRITANI: You started in 1938.
- NODA: Because I was class of '42.
- IRITANI: And then that was your first time [you were] really away from home.
- NODA: Right, about 500 miles.
- IRITANI: Yes! Was it difficult adjustment and where did you stay and what kind of
 . . .
- NODA: When I first went to Berkeley, my father drove up and he took me and we
 had a very dear family--the Miuras--Wataru and Hifumi's parents. They
 had me stay over there until I found a job. At that time also I had another
 friend who was going to do schoolgirl [work]. We met each other at the
 Bureau of Occupation. We signed up to work.
- IRITANI: That was part of the University program.
- NODA: Yes, they had a good program at that time for people who needed to work
 and go to school, because I don't think we could have done it. Our parents'
 salary was too low and so the Miuras took me and then once I found this
 job and I moved over to--the first place I went to was a Greek professor.
 Linforth was his name. They were very nice.
- IRITANI: The name?

¹³ kanji: Chinese character

- NODA: L I N F O R T H. Linforth. He was a Greek professor, so I stayed there and worked and then I . . . They had to go on a sabbatical so they introduced me to another family and that was the Ritsons who lived in Grizzly Peak, so I had a beautiful place.
- IRITANI: [INAUDIBLE]
- NODA: I stayed there until Pearl Harbor came.
- IRITANI: And their name--last name?
- NODA: Ritson, R I T S O N, and she was a school teacher, and so I used to make supper--cook supper. I had a very easy job.
- IRITANI: Was it You got transportation down to school?
- NODA: Yes. There was a bus stop one block away that went around the reservoir and went down to the camp. It was very nice. I met lots of--there were lots of kids doing the same kind of schoolgirl job.
- IRITANI: Did you meet some of the niseis¹⁴?
- NODA: Yes, I met about 500 that year. And we had a nice. . . . We went to the Berkeley United Church and then after that we went to the Congregational Church at night for fellowship--the young people.
- IRITANI: Berkeley United is a Methodist Church.
- NODA: Yes.
- IRITANI: And then the Congregational Church was Durant and Dana?
- NODA: It was Plymouth something. It was Dana--do you know Berkeley? Corner of Dana and it was near a bank office--near the campus.
- IRITANI: Was that also for a nisei group?

- NODA: Yes. There were lots of . . .
- IRITANI: So you had during the week you had your studies and you were majoring in what at that time?
- NODA: At that time, I was majoring in psychology.
- IRITANI: You carried a full load?
- NODA: Yes, I did. My grades went down too, because I enjoyed fellowship and social life more than I did [LAUGHTER]
- IRITANI: Well, that's the area of your life that you didn't have as a young person in Southern California. You were working. You were away from In Southern California did your family attend some church down there?
- NODA: Yes, he was a traveling minister. He was a Baptist minister. So he would live in Pomona and he'd meet with the Pomona group and then he would come down to Garden Grove.
- IRITANI: What was his name?
- NODA: His name was Reverend Shiraishi. S H I R A I S H I. There was also Reverend Kikuchi, because there was--in Wintersburg there was a Presbyterian Church so mother and dad liked both ministers.
- IRITANI: So they went to both.
- NODA: They went there.
- IRITANI: So you, yourself, affiliated in Berkeley with the Berkeley United Church, the Methodist Church, as well as the Congregational--young people's group. As far as the rest of the activities on campus, were you involved in those at all?

¹⁴ nisei: Second generation of Japanese immigrants

NODA: Well, I think at noon time I used to like to go to the YWCA¹⁵ that's right outside the gate. They had all kinds of . . .

IRITANI: Outside of Sather Gate?

NODA: Sather Gate. They had very exciting programs and good speakers so I enjoyed that very much.

IRITANI: How many--do you remember, as a freshman, did you carry a big load of units?

[END TAPE 1, SIDE A]

[BEGIN TAPE 1, SIDE B]

IRITANI: We shall continue with the interview with Grace Noda. This is Tape 1, Side B. I'm afraid I let the tape lapse without noticing that it had completed--stopped taping, and so to kind of cover some of the areas that we had talked about, you had been involved with your classes of 15 units, studying, staying with families and doing schoolgirl work, commuting to the University at Berkeley by bus, and enjoying yourself with the people at the Berkeley United Church--United Methodist Church and with the young people at the Congregational Church, so you were really having a very lovely time for the first time in your life. You were really able to socialize. And then you completed your --not really the four years, because by then December 7, 1941 had occurred and ,of course, you and the other niseis--how did you actually feel? Did people look at you in a different way?

NODA: Well, I think there was some animosity. However, my dear friend who

¹⁵ YWCA: Young Women's Christian Association

was Caucasian and her parents were in the Philippines and they were persecuted, but she had no bitterness towards me. I thought, well, I have friends like that I could, you know, I'm very fortunate. When you join church groups I think you have that comfort of having people of like mind. Berkeley had lots of those kinds of people.

NODA: Right. When you changed jobs to come down to live in Berkeley but you didn't remain in that job very long because by then Executive Order [9066]¹⁶ . . .

NODA: That's right.

IRITANI: Was that before the Executive Order was put into place, do you think, because you would have had your five-mile limit to travel already?

NODA: No, that's when it was going to happen the next day. We got home just in time. Because my sister picked us up at the Union Station, because she was able to drive the family car.

IRITANI: Your sister, Alice or was it Marion?

NODA: Marion, yes. She was the only one who was able to drive. That was very fortunate because, otherwise, I think it would have been difficult. Transportation was very bad in Los Angeles.

IRITANI: When you were told by your sister Alice when she called to tell you, you'd better come home because mom and dad are not here, you were not given any information about the fact that they had been taken until then?

NODA: Just shortly before that, yes.

¹⁶ Executive Order 9066: Issued by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on February 19, 1942 authorizing removal of all people of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast into Internment camps.

IRITANI: About when was that?

NODA: I think it was when I --I'm not quite sure. I can't remember the details but she said that dad wanted to make sure that I would finish school, and therefore they survived being alone by themselves. Dad was gone. At that time they took him from Norwalk to Tajunga. (sp?)

IRITANI: Tajunga is federal --like a jail more than a big prison.

NODA: Right. And they took mother in a paddy wagon with four drunks to Los Angeles County jail . . .

IRITANI: Oh, no!

NODA: To Terminal Island.

IRITANI: To Terminal Island!

NODA: At first they took them to Los Angeles County jail. These four women said they were not going to eat anything. They were going to fast. They weren't there very long because they were sent to Terminal Island. That was a horrible experience for them.

IRITANI: She was at Terminal Island very long? She never saw her husband?

NODA: No, she never saw him. And the FBI said, "You know, most of these Japanese, they were ready to go as soon as the FBI came to get them." But my father was not ready. He just took his time. They were waiting for him to come home. He took his time and slowly opened his suitcase and took one--put things in, you know . . .

IRITANI: But he was given an opportunity to pack his suitcase?

NODA: Oh, yes.

IRITANI: Not everybody had been.

NODA: Somebody telephoned him--Mr. Imamoto. "Just take your time. As soon as you come, somebody is taking you away." He got that message.

IRITANI: But did your mother already. . .

NODA: Mother-- they took her first.

IRITANI: Oh, really?

NODA: She was home. So she went to Los Angeles County jail. She said because she had a strong back, a little smaller lady would get on her back to get on the upper bunk. There's one young lady --she was a Reverend. It was a Holiness Church--the daughter. All the women marveled her because she was the youngest one and, yet, she seemed to hold these women together. They sang together, they talked together and they even had prayer, but she was such a strong lady. Where some of the so-called dynamic ladies who were real disciplinarians at the Japanese school fell apart because they didn't have their husbands beside them and so mother certainly found out a lot about people and their faith, you know . . .

IRITANI: So as long as the person was a Japanese language teacher . . .

NODA: They seemed to be taken in.

IRITANI: No matter what. They were all picked up.

NODA: Uh hm. There was one man. He was a dentist. He committed suicide. He felt so humiliated, I guess. So after that happened, mother said that they were treated like a mass of, you know, jailbirds or whatever, and they had to go outside whenever they were told to go outside, even if they

didn't want to go outside to exercise, maybe for an hour they couldn't come back in to their cells or whatever. So mother said you couldn't even do anything because they took your scissors away, they took your nail files away, just anything that could be an instrument, a weapon.

IRITANI: Familiar now-a-days. [CHUCKLES]

NODA: Weapons, you know. They were really pale because the kind of food they fed them was maybe the culls because the cabbage that was so old that when you eat your tongue feels like it's cut--they hurt--and then they were fed mutton. In Japanese they don't like mutton. I don't even care for lamb that much, but it was meat that they never had before. So the kinds of food they were fed, they didn't enjoy. So all the women came back looking very pale.

IRITANI: From there she went to Terminal Island.

NODA: To Santa Anita.

IRITANI: Santa Anita?

NODA: That's where we were --the Assembly Center.

IRITANI: Oh, so they let her out.

NODA: They let her out, yes. Everybody got out within about either four to seven months.

IRITANI: Oh and you were still at Santa Anita.

NODA: Yes, we had gone in by ourselves--we four girls. We did our own packing and that was a nightmare.

IRITANI: The house--was it a rental house that you lived in?

- NODA: It was attached to the school.
- IRITANI: Oh, I see.
- NODA: And we had people from Terminal Island who had evacuated within 24 hours. They were there. And the Quaker from Pasadena--they took care of them. They came every night to see how things were. And so when we were evacuating to Santa Anita, we had two days in which to do it. The first day, all the Terminal Island people went first. So, you know, we were all alone, the four of us. We even took our dog --found home for our dog--some family took our dog. We were exhausted because we had two weeks after we got back to Southern California to get ready to evacuate.
- IRITANI: I think I'd better pause here. [Telephone ringing.] It went away.
- So you were able to go from there from your home which became a hostel for a while . . .
- NODA: Temporarily.
- IRITANI: Temporarily and so the building was just left.
- NODA: Yes, well, we got rid of a lot of things and we boarded up (pounded) one of the bedrooms with our kitchen utensils--things like that--dishes--whatever. And all our linen, you know.
- IRITANI: Oh, you put them all in one room.
- NODA: All in one room and rented the house. But the house was ransacked and everything was gone.
- IRITANI: By the time that you got back.
- NODA: Well, I got to go out once.

IRITANI: Oh, really?

NODA: My boss took me out.

IRITANI: Your boss while you were in Santa Anita and you were working.

NODA: Yes. Mr. England took me.

IRITANI: What position was he?

NODA: He was one of the directors--one of the pretty top man. He was a very nice person.

IRITANI: So you had a very good job.

NODA: I had a good job. And I had a wonderful friend named Dr. Bruff.

IRITANI: B r . . .

NODA: B R U F F. He was with the American Friends Service Committee as well as a physician and he was very kind to my two sisters. He used to come and see them because he was taking care of the Terminal Island people, and so somehow he felt that he could be of great help to us, and indeed he was a great help, because he was the one who brought material to me so that we could use them for-- like all the discarded books from the Los Angeles County Library that came. He brought all kinds of different music--choir music so we can copy them, have a lovely choir, and he even got pianos there and some instruments. We even had an orchestra because violin--people who owned violins brought it to camp, so we really had a very good program in Santa Anita. We tried to make the best of it and Dr. Bruff used to come every visitor's day he could. Santa Anita isn't that close to Whittier but he came, and he's the one that called me back to

California, so I worked for him afterwards.

IRITANI: So you were in Santa Anita until . . .

NODA: I think it was around January.

IRITANI: Oh, that long.

NODA: Yes, because when we went to Arkansas. . .

IRITANI: To which--Rohwer or Jerome?

NODA: Jerome. And the camp was not really ready for us. It was cold and there were no windows in yet, and it was raining and a lot of us got sick. We had to go to the next block to go to the bathroom. Oh, it was a horrible experience.

IRITANI: So you were in Jerome?

NODA: Yes.

IRITANI: I know I've seen some of the paintings that show cutting the wood--women cutting wood. . .

NODA: My sister Marion was --when they were doing that I was already out. Marion and Lily were the two strong ones that cut wood in our family. My dad didn't come back until later. He was . . .

IRITANI: So your mother was with you?

NODA: Yes.

IRITANI: The four girls--and you remained in Jerome for how long?

NODA: Until my father came back and I forgot exactly what month that was.

IRITANI: But that was also in 1943? You went in January 1943.

NODA: It must have been '44.

IRITANI: '44?

NODA: Yes.

IRITANI: In the meantime, did you ever hear --did Berkeley send you your diploma or they just didn't even consider you a graduate?

NODA: No, I actually was not a real graduate because I didn't have . . .

IRITANI: You didn't have the final.

NODA: And I got to complete that in Oberlin later.

IRITANI: After--way after.

NODA: Yes.

IRITANI: So, you left --you say early--1944 after you have been working?

NODA: Yes, I got a job as a teacher--music teacher in Arkansas, so I taught, you know . . .

IRITANI: You didn't have any instruments to work with?

NODA: No, I just taught from first to sixth grade in songs--music--singing. No instruments. That was good

IRITANI: There was --I don't remember a choral group at all in our camp.

[CHUCKLES] You were able to do that--bring the. . . . Well, was the school in one area?

NODA: Yes. It was sort of in the end of the . . .

IRITANI: Side of the camp.

NODA: Yes, because I remember walking a lot and I remember trying to cross a ditch and there's a guy who said, "May I help you?" And I said, "Please." And we both fell in. [LAUGHTER] Either I was too heavy or I just lost

balance, you know. Muddy, so I had to go back home. So that was a happy thing but it was hard because we got a temporary license to teach from the State of Arkansas. My instructor--the person who was the Caucasian counterpart--she was making 300 something dollars a month and I was getting \$19 a month.

IRITANI: You were top pay!

NODA: Yes. [LAUGHTER]

IRITANI: You were in the doctor's and other management. So all the teachers received \$19 a month--internee teachers.

NODA: Uh hm. And I didn't realize until after years later that Mary Tsukamoto was there.

IRITANI: Yes.

NODA: My goodness! Here I had an opportunity to get acquainted and bring her over.

IRITANI: You were in different areas.

NODA: Yes, I'm afraid so. We were with the Stockton group and some Fresno. And my sister--she was a nurse, so she was . . .

IRITANI: She was already a nurse in Norwalk?

NODA: Well, she was at Highland Hospital in Oakland. She was working there as a nurse's aide. And, therefore, she was able to use that knowledge, so when she came to Santa Anita, and we were ready to evacuate, or go to relocate, they assigned her to go with a certain trainload, and so that's why we were . . .

- IRITANI: So you were all sent at the same time.
- NODA: So we were--there were--very few from Norwalk area were in our block.
We were with the Stockton and Fresno people.
- IRITANI: You were certainly not the first ones to go out but . . .
- NODA: One of the earlier ones.
- IRITANI: One of the earlier ones--1944. And so where did you go?
- NODA: You couldn't go out unless you had a final place.
- IRITANI: A job or school.
- NODA: And at that time schools weren't opening to us. I wanted to go to Minnesota. I wanted to go to University of Minnesota and they didn't accept me. There were a few schools that provided that opening, you know, some of the Quaker colleges. But I wanted to go to a _____ University, someplace where I could finish up real fast, but it turned out that Oberlin allowed us to take courses.
- IRITANI: Oberlin is . . .
- NODA: In Ohio.
- IRITANI: Around close to what?
- NODA: Cleveland.
- IRITANI: Cleveland.
- NODA: When I went to Oberlin, actually, I was guardian for my sister Alice because she was only 16. She was under age so she needed somebody to sign papers, and so I went.
- IRITANI: So she --your whole family went?

- NODA: No, no, just me. And then Alice came.
- IRITANI: Came after.
- NODA: Yes.
- IRITANI: Your mother remained?
- NODA: Mother and dad were in camp. My father was a social worker in camp by then. So he was able to do a lot of good work.
- IRITANI: Did your mother ever work in Jerome?
- NODA: No, she did not. She didn't work in Jerome but, you know, my sister Lily got married early. When we were in Minnesota, she met this soldier and she married him. So he was sent to Virginia to Vent Hill (sp?) to do translation--decoding and they had their first child. My mother went all by herself from Arkansas to Virginia.
- IRITANI: Wow!
- NODA: Isn't that something?
- IRITANI: Yes, she was courageous.
- NODA: Courageous, oh yes. And she never went back again. From there, my father came out and they both got jobs in doctor--they worked in the doctor's home, but they had to do housework and that way they got room and board and shelter--money, so they stayed with that family until they came back to California.
- NODA: And your sister, you said one got married.
- NODA: Lily got married.
- IRITANI: The eldest?

- NODA: No. I'm the eldest.
- IRITANI: You're the eldest. She's the second.
- NODA: Second one. The third one--I think she joined, because Lily and I worked in Minnesota for this family in St. Paul.
- IRITANI: So after you finished Oberlin, you got your Bachelor's from Oberlin?
- NODA: No. Oberlin wanted to give me the Bachelor's degree but they said no so they transferred that credit to Berkeley and Berkeley finally sent me a diploma.
- IRITANI: Oh, really! Berkeley even if you didn't finish there.
- NODA: Yes. They wouldn't even let me march with them.
- IRITANI: With the graduating class.
- NODA: That's OK. Grant, when he got his Masters from Berkeley, he didn't even go to his graduation. [CHUCKLES] Some people are that way.
- Mendokusai.¹⁷
- IRITANI: Then you went to Minnesota to work?
- NODA: Yes, in this home. It was St. Paul, Minnesota. And while there, Lily and I both went. Lily met Ken Matsuoka. So they got married . . .
- IRITANI: He was in the MIS.¹⁸
- NODA: Yes, he was the instructor.
- IRITANI: And then he went to Virginia to . . .
- NODA: No, he was decoding.
- IRITANI: Decoding and he remained there until the end of the war?

¹⁷ Mendokusai: bothersome

¹⁸ MIS: Military Intelligence Service

- NODA: No, they transferred him to Cleveland.
- IRITANI: So he never went to use his MIS training during the war or occupation?
- NODA: No, he was a soldier all along until the end of the war, I believe.
- IRITANI: But he didn't serve in Japan with the Occupation?
- NODA: He went to Japan one year. I think it was . . .
- IRITANI: Probably the occupation.
- NODA: Because he is very good in Japanese.
- IRITANI: Was he a kibe¹⁹?
- NODA: No, but he grew up around Compton school which had one of the top instructors, Mr. and Mrs. Endow. And that's the way he studied Japanese.
- IRITANI: So now you and Lily and the other two were still with the parents.
- NODA: Yes. Marion was working in camp and Alice was a student in high school until she graduated. Then she got this four-year scholarship to Oberlin.
- IRITANI: Oh, she also went to Oberlin.
- NODA: That's why I went to Oberlin to be her guardian.
- IRITANI: Oh, I see. She was assigned there first.
- NODA: Uh hm.
- IRITANI: Marion--where was she going?
- NODA: Marion --I think she went to Minnesota to be with Lily. Then she went to Washington, D.. C.
- IRITANI: With her parents?
- NODA: To work with the Red Cross.
- IRITANI: Your parents were by themselves.

NODA: Yes.

IRITANI: After their time in camp. So that's different again.

NODA: Because they also had to go from Jerome to Rohwer. They all got shifted over to Rohwer.

IRITANI: Right.

NODA: At that time dad was a social worker. You know, people were still going to Japan and some of the niseis didn't want to go with their parents to Japan. And if they were of age, my father made arrangements before they left Jerome he moved them over to Rohwer and then helped them get out. But I know one little boy--he was around 14. He had no mother and his father wanted to take him and his sister to Japan, and he didn't want to go but he was too young. I saw him in Japan when I was there. He was working in the canteen as a missionary. It was so good to see him because he seemed to be well adjusted, you know--accepted his role. Later on, after the war, he came home--back to California.

IRITANI: To the United States.

NODA: Yes, because it wasn't voluntary in his situation. He was forced to go.

IRITANI: Right.

NODA: Because of his age.

IRITANI: One of the minors who went. OK, and so, now you have completed your work at Oberlin. You are working in Minnesota doing what?

NODA: School. I was the chief cook in the home.

IRITANI: Oh, you were still working in the home, but you were not going to school

¹⁹ Kibei: Native U. S. citizen born of immigrant Japanese parents but educated largely in Japan.

in Minnesota?

NODA: No, I didn't go to school in Minnesota at all. I did it when I went to Oberlin.

IRITANI: And then was that about when you got married?

NODA: Oh, no, no. I didn't get married for a long. . . .

IRITANI: Long after that.

NODA: Yes. I went back to California and then I worked for Dr. Bruff for four years.

IRITANI: In what town?

NODA: Whittier.

IRITANI: In Whittier.

NODA: And I went to Japan for two years with the American Friends Service Committee workers..

IRITANI: What kind of work did you do in Japan?

NODA: In Japan? I taught English to a kindergarten class, I taught English to a teenage group and to a college group who came to our Quaker Center.

IRITANI: You were in where?

NODA: Tokyo.

IRITANI: In Tokyo. Huge city.

NODA: Can you imagine driving in Japan?

IRITANI: Oh, no.

NODA: I learned to drive in Japan between Yokohama and Tokyo.

IRITANI: You were living in Yokohama?

NODA: No, in Tokyo. But I had to go to Yokohama because I was doing. . . . Did you hear about LA RA Lara Bushi, they used to call it. There were seven different organizations that were doing good work in Japan. There was the American Friends Service, there was the Lutheran _____ Service, some of the AF of L, CIO unions, and there is the Church World Service Catholic organization. There was a Catholic father that was there; a Canadian person from the church group that was a Quaker. You know Esther Rhoads was one of them.

IRITANI: That was . . .

NODA: Rhoads. She was a teacher to the Empress in Japan. She was a Quaker. First it was Elizabeth Vining who was the Crown Prince's teacher. But Esther Rhoads. She had been in Japan before the war as a school teacher at the princess' girl's school. She speaks Japanese, so she was a wonderful helper, but anyway, I had to go to Yokohama to do the --check all the things that came on the ship whenever a shipload came. It was relief goods. They brought clothing, they brought powder milk, powder for the babies' program, they brought medicine like streptomycin. That was very hard to get for the medical situation, so anyway, that was the thing that I did once a week. Then I used to go around to the various institutions to drive so I could go from one neighborhood center to another and we even built a neighborhood center in Tokyo--the building.

IRITANI: What does L A R A stand for?

NODA: License Agency for Relief of Asia. "Lalabushi" they used to call it. You

never heard of it? They were really the first ones to help.

IRITANI: When did you actually leave? You left from Minnesota to go there?

NODA: I was already in California. I also had to go back to Philadelphia to take a lot of training and then go to the warehouse to collect all the things I had to use for the two years in Japan, so I took my own bed, which is a folding bed. I took sheets and put in all the sanitary things, you know, because I was a girl. [CHUCKLES] Two years' supply of that.

IRITANI: Oh, my! You knew you were to be assigned for two years.

NODA: That's what I signed up for. Because it is not good to just take one year.

IRITANI: So when did you actually leave?

NODA: Goodness, what year was it? I think '48, because when the Korean

[END TAPE 1, SIDE B]

[BEGIN TAPE 2, SIDE A]

IRITANI: We shall continue. This is Tape 2, Side A. Our interview is with Grace Noda at her home in Davis. Grace, we are already in Japan when you were working around 1948. You say you were there for two years working with the American Friends Service Committee, a very wonderful Quaker group. Before that, did you have some activity or relationship with the Quaker program?

NODA: Well, when Dr. Bruff called me back from camp--not camp, I was in Oberlin. I went back to California in the first trainload of evacuees.

IRITANI: Oh, 1944?

NODA: 1945.

- IRITANI: Early '45.
- NODA: I think so.
- IRITANI: When things were kind of questionable in California.
- NODA: Dr Bruff said, "You have to stay with us. You can't be alone."
- IRITANI: And you lived in . . .
- NODA: I lived in his home.
- IRITANI: In Berkeley?
- NODA: In Whittier.
- IRITANI: In Whittier, that's right. You were in Whittier.
- NODA: And then I was associated with his work and with all the--I went to the Quaker church there in Whittier and became a member. They were looking for somebody who could speak Japanese who was a Quaker to go and represent the AFSC in Japan and I was lucky to be accepted, but I had a lot of Quaker friends so that helped too. Dr Bruff was a very prominent doctor and he always had all these different people from back East in his home and so I met Esther Rhoads before I went to Japan.
- IRITANI: And then you met her again with that committee.
- NODA: Yes.
- IRITANI: The relief committee.
- NODA: In fact, she went out from . . . She was in Jerome and went out from Jerome with me to Chicago when I was going out to Oberlin. Esther Rhoads.
- IRITANI: She was in Jerome.

NODA: She was in Jerome visiting so she went with me to Chicago. Interestingly, I went to Minnesota to St. Paul by myself. Here was a Quaker family I met and took me over to my new home. So Quakers were doing all kinds of nice things like that.

IRITANI: Wonderful. So your actual work with this group was to transport things or check up on things?

NODA: Check up on materials that were arriving from the United States.

IRITANI: And to make sure that they got to their destination?

NODA: No, I didn't have to do that part, no. I just had to--what do they call it--there is a certain term, you know, term that they use?

IRITANI: That's the material that arrived. You just had to make sure that the shipment came in.

NODA: They came from Seattle, from San Francisco, and all those from Southern California--so I did that for two years.

IRITANI: For two years. So you returned in 1950.

NODA: 1950, right after the Korean War broke out.

IRITANI: At that time Japan was still in shambles. The manufacturing really took off because of the Korean War. That's what really helped the recovery in Japan. So at the time you were there. . . . I know we went in 1954 and a lot of people were still living inside Ueno train station and along the rivers--river banks in Tokyo and that was '54. Five years later, still it was tough.

NODA: One of the funniest thing that I remember was I used to wear very clean

clothes to go and do my work, especially Setagaya because that's where all these people who were evacuated from other countries--Japanese who had never been to--like they came from Korea, they came from Manchuria, and they didn't belong in Japan because they came from other places, but they were Japanese. Therefore, they were in this area. We decided to take care of them--little children because some of them had no fathers and mothers were--they had babies on their backs and they were cutting lawn with scissors in American GI's quarters, you know, for a few cents. That's how they were living and surviving. So we decided to take the children and tried to give them some food. They used to call me the "pudding lady." [CHUCKLES] Pudding bachan²⁰. On a little thing is a stove--charcoal stove. I used to take powdered milk, powdered eggs, powdered sugar, and also chocolate. I forgot what kind. I used to make pudding and serve it to the kids. It took me two hours to cook that pudding.

[LAUGHTER] I had to keep fanning it.

IRITANI: Keep the charcoal going.

NODA: Yes. The kids loved it. We had little tin cups--they all had their own cups with their names and they would just--you would never believe that was chocolate in there. They ate it clean. They were hungry. They only could get the ration. Some days the ration was whale meat. Other times, the ration is just a little sweet potato and that's all they had.

IRITANI: That was ration by the government. Everybody had to go pick up their daily rations.

²⁰ Bachan: grandmother

- NODA: Yes. So I went twice a week and made pudding. [CHUCKLES] I didn't make anything else because that's the only thing I could think of with the supplies that we had. I never tasted but . . .
- IRITANI: It must have been good.
- NODA: We tried to keep them --we tried to have them take naps. We had this big tatami²¹. We put all the children down and we used to rub their eyes so they would go to sleep, but I had all these Friends' school girls helping me.
- IRITANI: Where was the Friends' school?
- NODA: Friends' school was near where I lived in Tokyo. Near Tamachi. A little bit far. I don't know exactly how far because I used to drive, but it would be inconvenient if I had to . . .
- IRITANI: Take the train?
- NODA: Yes, I did have a girl that used to take care of me. She did my laundry and she used to say, "You know, the American soldiers are so religious." [I asked] "What do you mean?" [She said] "Oh, I see them every Sunday and they are always saying, 'God damn you. Jesus Christ!'"
- [LAUGHTER] I said, "Sumichan, that isn't nice." But I couldn't explain the profanity. But the way she said it [LAUGHTER]
- Another thing that happened to me. This didn't happen to her but I used to take the Allied train which is the last car on the Japanese train and that's where all the soldiers would get in free. I'd get in there free and, you know, they probably thought I was one of the prostitutes. The boys would say--

- IRITANI: Making comments.
- NODA: Making comments, you know, I didn't say a word. I just . . .
- IRITANI: Pretended like you didn't know what they were saying.
- NODA: Because I wanted to hear all the things that they could say. I knew I was going to get off before them because they boarded at the last station, the Tokyo station, and as I was getting off [I said] "Boys, I enjoyed your conversation." [They said] "Oh, my God, she's stateside!" [LAUGHTER]
- IRITANI: You just let them go on.
- NODA: I was studying Japanese at the same time. It was really something.
- IRITANI: It was a difficult time for Japan. Really difficult when the military brought on those people.
- NODA: You know, there was a lack of coal because we had a potbelly stove at our place and no matter how we tried to get the heat, it didn't go above 50 [degrees].
- IRITANI: Oh, my!
- NODA: So we used to get utampu²² at night in our bed to warm our feet. And we had Mrs. Hashimoto who used to cook for us and she would always give us utampu.
- IRITANI: Hot water bottle.
- NODA: Yes, that's right. They had one of those metal ones and you put hot water in and put a cover on it. This one she had to--I forgot what kind it was but anyway, it worked.

²¹ Tatami: floor matting

²² Utampu: Warmer

- IRITANI: You were there through two winters or . . .
- NODA: I arrived on Easter, so April.
- IRITANI: It was still cool.
- NODA: It was.
- IRITANI: At that time. Of course, the first winter it must have been terribly cold for you.
- NODA: My sister gave me a fur coat-- a mouton coat. It's called "mouton."
Anyway, I used it. and when I left Japan I left that with somebody so they could use it, but, oh, when I went to Japan, on *President Wilson*, the hull was all Chinese people who were going back to China. Some of them to live [in China], and then I was in a group with another lady. Nobody was above us. So it was two in a little space. She had the remains of her husband and her two children. She had three of these. She stayed in bed the whole time because the trip was so rough. Another Chinese Quaker who was going back. He had been in England. I met him, so we were the only two that would go to breakfast.
- IRITANI: Did you really.
- NODA: The rest of them were pretty old people, and a lot of the Japanese were old too. I guess retired. They were sort of --there was a chain from here around us so that we couldn't slide. Otherwise, we would go off
[LAUGHTER]
- IRITANI: Off the bed.
- NODA: Boat's going like this. I'm trying to go down stairs, you know, you sort of

wobble.

IRITANI: In April the weather would have been terrible.

NODA: I think it took us about ten days, Now you can do it in five.

IRITANI: Now, you can fly. [CHUCKLES] You made it over there and . . . Were you carrying just the things--taking just the things that you really needed?

NODA: What I needed personally and my share of the food. We took a lot of canned food and staples like flour, sugar. Rice, I got it from the commissary.

IRITANI: You can always go to the commissary. You were in Whittier, you said, when you were asked to go. You went to training in Philadelphia and then you went out of Los Angeles.

NODA: Went back to Los Angeles to get on the ship.

IRITANI: At that time you were not that old. Still in your early 20s.

NODA: Long ago.

IRITANI: Still it was decision you made.

NODA: Some people thought I was sacrificing to go to Japan. In reality I was making \$20 a month and that took care of my travels to my grandmother's. The school teachers in Japan were making \$20 and they had a hard life because they had to pay rent, food whereas mine were all provided, and there was no sacrifice on my part, so I was able to send things to my grandmother. And that was one experience.

IRITANI: Did you meet her very early in your time there?

NODA: No, it was more than half a year later that I went.

- IRITANI: You had been contacting her, though. Had you been writing to her?
- NODA: I had Sumiko-san who took care of me . She wrote for me.
- IRITANI: Oh, I see.
- NODA: To say that I was coming. So then I went to Kyoto on a train and stayed at Hiragiya which is Japanese Ryokan²³. In Japan women don't travel. It was very rare to find one traveling. I bought the whole sleeper on the train so that I thought I could travel alone. Here, all these Diet members sleeping all around me, and I couldn't do anything about it. That's the way it was.
- IRITANI: Diet members meaning the representatives. . .
- NODA: Members of Parliament were going back to their respective homes. I guess it was a holiday. So that was an experience. [LAUGHTER] And the Quaker couple that came from Philadelphia took me to this station, I said, "Oh, Henry Perry, what am I going to do?"
- IRITANI: Henry Perry was the Quaker man.
- NODA: Quaker man. He's related to Commodore Perry.
- IRITANI: Oh, wow!
- NODA: He's very famous. He said, "Oh, Grace, just look the other way." I said, "Well, I'm not going to look, I'm gong to bury myself until I get to Kyoto." [LAUGHTER] The girls at the Ryokan were surprised because I was coming alone.
- IRITANI: By yourself.
- NODA: But they were very nice.

IRITANI: Good.

NODA: I enjoyed that experience.

IRITANI: But your grandmother still lived in Yamaguchi?

NODA: Yes, she was there. So then when I got to Yamaguchi, they wanted to know how I'm going to be recognized. They said they would put up a fork. They bought some utensils. They didn't know what to expect. I had sent some food--you know, my share of food ahead of time. I sent Crisco, I sent flour to make some things and canned stew beef and some other things. Anyway, I said, "Where's the Crisco?" when I got there. They used it for butter and ate it on bread. They were so happy to get lard. When they didn't have shoyu²⁴ at that time, so I brought some shoyu with me too, and my share of rice. They didn't know that I could speak Japanese and that I enjoyed Japanese food. They were so relieved. They went to the store to buy fork and a knife and spoon--thought the things I need.

IRITANI: You need.

NODA: All I need is hashi.²⁵ So I had a wonderful time meeting my relatives. One of them is American born and who married my mother's brother--yoshi.

IRITANI: She had gone back?

NODA: She was there because she never went to America after. She was in Japan.

IRITANI: She was born over here.

²³ Ryokan: Japanese inn

²⁴ Shoyu: Soy sauce

- NODA: She was born in Los Angeles and never --stayed and married my uncle.
So, it's sorta nice.
- IRITANI: Did she remember her English?
- NODA: Yes, she used to write to me in English. Not too well but I think she went up to eighth grade.
- IRITANI: You had a good time visiting, meeting your relatives for the first time.
- NODA: First time, right.
- IRITANI: And you have gone back since?
- NODA: Yes, I went back I think when my daughter was going to UOP²⁶ to Japan as an exchange student and that was in 1980.
- IRITANI: Was she at the Waseda University?
- NODA: No, she went to Kansai Dai, which is a University in Osaka.
- IRITANI: You completed your tour of duty basically for the two years and then you came back and you lived where?
- NODA: Well, I lived in Southern California with my sister until I decided what I was going to do next. I said I wanted to go back to school, because I'd like to get a teaching credential so I went to UCLA ²⁷and got it in a year and a half. And then I taught school.
- IRITANI: You taught school in Los Angeles?
- NODA: No, I went back to Berkeley and I got accepted at the Richmond School District. They wanted an Asian for the first time in the school system.
- IRITANI: You were there in 1951.

²⁵ Hashi: chopsticks

²⁶ UOP: University of the Pacific

- NODA: What year was it? 1951... I taught school until three weeks before. . . .
Of course, I got married in 1955.
- IRITANI: Before you get into that, how did you and your husband meet?
- NODA: Well, we met through some Quaker friends.
- IRITANI: Was he also a Quaker?
- NODA: He went to a Quaker college.
- IRITANI: Which one?
- NODA: Earlham in Indiana. Richmond, Indiana.
- IRITANI: How do you spell Earlham?
- NODA: E A R L H A M.
- IRITANI: That's a small college.
- NODA: Yes, a small college. It's a good school.
- IRITANI: He came over to the Bay Area to work?
- NODA: He's working in the LSB Building of UC Berkeley.
- IRITANI: At Berkeley.
- NODA: At Berkeley
- IRITANI: LSB, that big building.
- NODA: That big building on the fourth floor.
- IRITANI: He was always in the botany field?
- NODA: No, he is a biochemist. But he worked with Dr. Evans and they were
doing something on DNA, some kind of research—growth hormone. So
he was there.
- IRITANI: But you weren't on campus. You were at Richmond.

²⁷ UCLA: University of California, Los Angeles

- NODA: I lived in Berkeley. I lived sometimes with my. . . . There's a Japanese girl whose brother is married to my sister, Marion's husband, the Sakurai's, and Kiyo and I lived together in the home in Berkeley and went to school.
- IRITANI: You got your teaching credentials.
- NODA: No, I already had my teaching credentials. I was teaching in Richmond.
- IRITANI: But you went to school--you mean you went to work?
- NODA: In LA, I was also working in a home while I studied and I worked at the library there.
- IRITANI: So here you are teaching now, and then you met your husband . . .
- NODA: Yes, I met Grant.
- IRITANI: . . . Grant, and his background--where was his family
- NODA: His family--you mean. . .
- IRITANI: His childhood was where?
- NODA: Livingston.
- IRITANI: Oh, he was from Livingston.
- NODA: You know, the Japanese community.
- IRITANI: Yamato.
- NODA: Yes, Yamato.
- IRITANI: Colony.
- NODA: His father is one of the founders.
- IRITANI: He was one of these young men who didn't stay to work on the farm.
- NODA: No.

IRITANI: [CHUCKLES] So many niseis did.

NODA: But he was the best farmer of all the boys. The oldest, Andrew, had his own farm because he didn't get along with his father. He was the one that dumped all the grapes and the father wanted to sell it for wine, but Andy was a Christian and he didn't believe in wine--making wine, so he dumped the whole carload. And, here, it was during the time the family was pretty hard up. [CHUCKLES] Another brother, Lafayette

IRITANI: He's the one at Dartmouth.

NODA: Yes, he's still there.

IRITANI: Retired.

NODA: Retired, yes.

IRITANI: That's quite a large family too.

NODA: I knew Lafayette before I knew Grant. And then he had a sister named Grace and he has a sister named Lily, sister named Harriet, brother Pat, Mary and Lois--nine children.

IRITANI: Large family.

NODA: So I thought Grant's the youngest--why can't he take my name?

[LAUGHTER]

IRITANI: "No thank you."

NODA: ."No thank you." [LAUGHTER]

IRITANI: At that time, people didn't.

NODA: I know.

IRITANI: So he was always working for UC Berkeley in the lab.

NODA: And commuted and went back on weekends to help on the farm. Because he was the only one that was stable enough to do anything. And I guess his mother trusted him.

IRITANI: After a while, probably stopped going back to the farm to work. Did he always continue that?

NODA: He always did that until --even after we were married.

IRITANI: So the family still has the farm?

NODA: Oh, they sold it.

IRITANI: They did sell.

NODA: It was tragic the way it ended, however, because they didn't approve of Grant selling it.

IRITANI: Well, there are ups and downs of family decisions like that, so then you were living in Richmond?

NODA: No, I lived in--we lived in Berkeley.

IRITANI: In Berkeley and you commuted.

NODA: We bought a house there and we still have the house. My mother lived in it until she was 100. We haven't sold it. We haven't rented it. We just use it for ourselves.

IRITANI: You still have it.

NODA: We still have it.

IRITANI: So when you go back to Berkeley, you. . .

NODA: We use it. We use it, you know, even to take a nap, use the telephone there, or he goes often too because we have other properties in the Bay

Area, so he uses that.

IRITANI: So he has a lot of that kind of work to do.

NODA: Right.

IRITANI: So he was working there. At what point did you transfer over here or was there another income place?

NODA: After he got his Masters degree, he applied for about eight different jobs and got accepted from all of them--every one of them, so he had a choice. He wanted to come to Davis, and I wept for two months. [LAUGHTER] "You're taking me to Hell!" ;[LAUGHTER] It's so hot, you know. I like the cool place. But anyway, we came here.

IRITANI: And what year was that?

NODA: This was in '58.

IRITANI: So not too much--after you were married.

NODA: Right.

IRITANI: You were married in '55, you said.

NODA: And I was teaching school.

IRITANI: You were still a newlywed.

NODA: I know. [LAUGHTER] But I was an old newlywed, because I got married at 35. Most people have their families already. I had Kathy when I was 39 and I had Tanya when I was 40.

IRITANI: Well, you were way ahead of time. That's what the girls are doing now.

NODA: That's it. I practiced that program before. [LAUGHTER] But I was happy to become a grandmother at 70. And I have two grandchildren, so I

enjoyed everything.

IRITANI: Very good, and you've been here ever since '58.

NODA: '58, yes. We first moved to another house and that's the house that Kathy lives in now. Because on the patio there's her new handprint . . .

IRITANI: Oh, really!

NODA: And it gives the date, "1959."

IRITANI: So you had the two children.

NODA: Two children.

IRITANI: Kathy and . . .

NODA: And Tanya.

IRITANI: Tanya.

NODA: And she got married after 14 years going with Harvey for 14 years. She doesn't have a family but she would love to, you know. Right now, stuffed teddy bear is it. [LAUGHTER]

IRITANI: Teddy bear is it. And now, what about. . . After you moved here did you teach here as well?

NODA: No, I didn't.

IRITANI: At all?

NODA: No, not at all. I did volunteer work--help some teachers, in the library--I enjoy that. They started this new math--I said, "No. I don't want to learn that." [CHUCKLES]

IRITANI: So Grant worked in the botany department?

NODA: In the botany department, yes, until he retired..

IRITANI: How long ago was that?

NODA: Well, he worked from '58--he commuted every day for one year from Berkeley.

IRITANI: Before you moved over here.

NODA: Because our house was being built. So it was '57 to --what year did he retire--I think around '85--Yes, he retired early because we have all this property.

IRITANI: So that's what his retirement has been . . .

NODA: Yes, working harder than ever.

IRITANI: . . . being manager of properties.

NODA: Yes, and now we want to turn it over to the kids. We have two son-in-laws working. Tanya is doing all the bookwork, but I used to . . .

IRITANI: She lives here also?

NODA: They just bought a house and they will get into it next week. She's been living here and it's painful to have _____ living with you.

[LAUGHTER]

IRITANI: And your other daughter lives where?

NODA: Our first house.

IRITANI: At the first house in Berkeley.

NODA: No, in Davis.

IRITANI: Here. But you said Tanya lived . . .

NODA: She lives in San Francisco--she has a condo house in San Francisco. But they are packing things up so they can move here. You know, houses are

so expensive now.

IRITANI: Over there especially.

NODA: San Francisco is bad enough.

[END TAPE 2, SIDE A]

[BEGIN TAPE 2, SIDE B]

IRITANI: This is a continuation of an interview with Grace Noda's story and I think it's not going to be too much longer after this because we are coming to where their daughters are to live here--both daughters will live here in the Davis area, and you have how many grandchildren?

NODA: Two.

IRITANI: Two grandchildren. You will get to see them often.

NODA: I do see them often. [CHUCKLES]

IRITANI: Right. Your husband's retirement has been working with your properties and now he doesn't have to worry about that, hopefully. So life keeps going on and so what are your activities now?

NODA: Well, I'm involved with American Friend's Service Committee. I'm involved with the Friends of California, The Friend's Committee on Legislation. It's a lobbying organization.

IRITANI: Based here in Sacramento?

NODA: Based here in Sacramento.

IRITANI: In Sacramento.

NODA: I've been volunteering for them for over 25 years. They are the lobbying

group--establishing good laws.

IRITANI: You go over to the capitol?

NODA: To the office, which is the . . .

IRITANI: Just to the office.

NODA: . . . which is on J Street—929 J Street office. Then I'm on the board of the Pine Tree Garden, which is the mental health group, taking care of mental clients.

IRITANI: Where is that?

NODA: Here in Davis where we have two different houses and we have all kinds of plans and trying to have hold on older clients. They don't have anything. For once, you are no longer eligible to stay in a group home. There is no place for them to go so we are trying to build a place like that. A lot of people --you know how mental people--clients--they think they are not very --what is it-- socially involved with community and they fear because they don't understand. They are human just like anybody else and they have that chemical imbalance, but we have a very good program, so Yolo County is very lucky to have good facilities. Other counties are sending people here. So anyway. . .

IRITANI: So you have to provide more space?

NODA: Yes, we have twelve beds --place for two houses, so that means we are taking care of 24 patients.

IRITANI: You are still building more?

NODA: And then Grant and I have rented our two 4-unit facilities--two 4-unit

facilities to them to house those who have graduated from a group situation to a more independent living. So this is starting to take place, so that's one of the things that I'm working on.

IRITANI: So you are on the board for the Pine Tree Garden?

NODA: Pine Tree Garden.

IRITANI: As well as you still have the American Friends Committee. . .

NODA: Friends Committee on legislation. That's separate. I used to go every week but now I go only twice a month, because I sign checks. They need somebody to do the banking.

IRITANI: Oh, you're the treasurer.

NODA: No, I'm not the treasurer. It's just that they need somebody who is on the board . . .

IRITANI: To be a co-signer.

NODA: Co-signer, yes. Instead of just the office people. In that way, I can check and see if it's legitimate.

IRITANI: That's on the books. And you are on that board. You've been on that board for 25 years?

NODA: Yes, as a volunteer. Friends don't call it board. They just call it Committee, Northern California.

IRITANI: But you don't get into the legislation.

NODA: No, I don't. That involves a lot of reading and lot of research and I don't have that kind of time. [CHUCKLES] I've been busy with mother's work for five years.

IRITANI: Right.

NODA: Even before that I used to go to Berkeley to take care of her--spend three days there and come back home.

IRITANI: Oh, really.

NODA: Yes, I went back and forth and I said, "Mom, it's too hard, so would you consider going into a rest home." She did have a terrible affinity about going into a retirement place because she said all you do is go there and die, but she was very pleased to know that the one in Sacramento had--they have these craft classes, and she really got involved with crafts and she just loved Robin who was the teacher.

IRITANI: When she did go into the Asian Nursing Home, how old was she?

NODA: 100.

IRITANI: She was already 100.

NODA: Elevated 100.

IRITANI: She was living alone or with your sister?

NODA: Alone.

IRITANI: When she was in Berkeley she was all alone.

NODA: Yes, she was alone since 1980. She outlived my father by 25 years.

[CHUCKLES]

IRITANI: Right.

NODA: Because she was ten years younger than him.

IRITANI: That's not unusual. And so when she went into the nursing home, she didn't resist too much.

- NODA: Not after the first two months. That's when she said, "How come I didn't get to go to Kimochi²⁸ in San Francisco?" I said, "Mom, if you go there, I wouldn't even come to see you." I said, "I don't like to drive to San Francisco." So she. . . . It's funny how she never looked back once she settled herself down to the Asian Nursing Home.
- IRITANI: Before that had she been attending church or . . .
- NODA: All her friends died and she started going to the nisei service and she sat there and whenever there was a hymn, she would sing the Japanese part, because they tried to have something.. They were very nice to her.
- IRITANI: Berkeley United Methodist.
- NODA: She's an excellent cook and especially she's known for her kurimanju²⁹ _So at every bazaar she did that to help--teach people to make that.
- IRITANI: Did you keep some of that too.
- NODA: No. [LAUGHTER] I couldn't make the anko³⁰.
- IRITANI: I buy the package.
- NODA: Oh, you do! [LAUGHTER]
- IRITANI: So before your mother came over here, she was living alone and doing fine except it was just too much for you to be traveling back and forth to help.
- NODA: She had a replacement of a hip. She broke her hip. She fell in the garden. Every Sunday she went to church because somebody picked her up. So, I've been getting letters--reading letters of different ones, you know, who

²⁸ Kimochi: Nursing Home for the elderly in San Francisco

²⁹ Kurimanju: Japanese rice cake

knew my mother. One gal said that mother used to come to her house when she was a little girl and she used to pick strawberries because they were strawberry farmers, so mother went and she had to do these things to show us that work is hard because we don't have to go into the strawberry field. She wanted to have us know that the farmers have a hard life and so she used to... but she had us go with her to pick string beans--my neighbors, so we did that. Mother was such a--she was unusual because she enjoyed working. She planned her day so she could do a little bit of cooking, little bit of craft things, and read. She loved to read. We had a hard time keeping her busy. [LAUGHTER]

IRITANI: That sounds like she kept herself pretty busy.

NODA: Right. The main thing--she never had to look at a book to cook. We always had to look at a recipe. She said, "Put it in your head."

IRITANI: It's all up there. Sounds like a wonderful lady. I think --I'm quite sure I must have seen her over at the nursing home.

NODA: She was in Wing A.

IRITANI: I didn't go around, but every Christmas our group went over to sing.

NODA: You go to the Methodist church?

IRITANI: I go to Centennial Methodist Church. But I belong to both the . . .

NODA: That's downtown, isn't it?

IRITANI: No, Freeport [Boulevard].

NODA: Oh, is that a Japanese one? A hakujin ³¹one?

³⁰ anko: red bean paste

³¹ Hakujin: Caucasian

IRITANI: Very diverse group.

NODA: Oh, I see.

IRITANI: Extremely diverse group. I attend the Japanese Methodist Church as well with the United Methodist Women's group.

NODA: Oh, I see.

IRITANI: Anyway, this is not about me. It's about you. What you are doing right now is mainly still the kind of things you've been doing--your volunteer work.

NODA: I also belong to the Embroidery Guild and that's once a month, because I like to do needlepoint and different things.

IRITANI: I don't see anything up here. So at this point in life, it's just a matter of the children and their activities that's keeping you going as well as your volunteer work.

NODA: Did you see this one? This was in *People's Magazine* about my mother.

IRITANI: Oh, my goodness! This is the *People's Magazine*. for November 3, 1990. It says, "Yoshiko Imamoto, an innocent victim of war time era, gets an overdue apology and \$20,000 from Uncle Sam." Oh, I will copy it.

NODA: That was--see, my father--that was the wedding picture.

IRITANI: Oh, my, after she came here and got remarried. Actually remarried because she was married by proxy originally. I will take this and copy it. I wonder if I have to get an OK?

NODA: We copied it, but it cost \$2.

IRITANI: I'll take it in to get a color copy--black and white and color copy.

NODA: You can copy this if you want.

IRITANI: Well, if I may take this I will get the original and get it copied for me.

OK, I think I will close with that. Thank you very much, Grace.

NODA: Sure

IRITANI: Excepting for my lapses of my not watching, I think we did all right. We will work on the transcript and will let you know when we complete it.

Thank you so much for your story. I will close.

[END TAPE 2, SIDE B]

NAMES LIST

Florin Japanese American Citizens League
Oral History Project

INTERVIEWEE: Grace Kyoko Noda
INTERVIEWER: Joanne Iritani

COOPERATING INSTITUTION: Oral History Program
California State University, Sacramento, California

<u>NAME</u>	<u>IDENTIFICATION</u>	<u>SOURCE OF IDENTIFICATION</u>	<u>PAGE INTRODUCED</u>
James Zenichi Imamoto	Father	Grace Kyoko Noda	1
Yoshiko Imamoto	Mother	"	2
Nobuyuki Iwamasa	Grandfather	"	4
Yamamura	Uncle	"	7
Reverend Terazawa	Rev. who officiated parents' marriage	"	9
Marion Sakurai	Sister	"	11
Alice Takemoto	Sister	"	12
Lily Matsuoka	Sister	"	14
Susumu Nakamura	Japanese Language School Teacher	"	16
Mrs. Florence Waln	Japanese Language School Teacher	"	16
Wataru and Hifumi Miura	Friends	"	17
Linforth	Greek Professor	"	17
Ritson	Family with whom Grace lived	"	17
Reverend Shiraishi	Baptist Minister	"	19
Reverend Kikuchi	Presbyterian Minister	"	19

<u>NAME</u>	<u>IDENTIFICATION</u>	<u>SOURCE OF IDENTIFICATION</u>	<u>PAGE INTRODUCED</u>
Mr. Imamoto	Uncle	"	22
Mr. England	Director Santa Anita Assembly Center	"	25
Dr. Bruff	Member, AFSC & Physician	"	26
Mary Tsukamoto	Internee in Jerome and Author, <i>We the People</i>		29
Ken Matsuoka	Lily's husband	"	32
Mr & Mrs Endow	Japanese Language School Instructor	"	33
Esther Rhoads	Teacher to Empress, Japan	"	36
Elizabeth Vining	Teacher to Crown Prince, Japan	"	36
Mrs. Hashimoto	Grace's cook in Japan	"	42
Fumiko-san	Lady who worked for Grace in Japan	"	44
Henry Perry	Quaker friend & descendant of Commodore Perry		45
Commodore Matthew C. Perry	Began Japanese contact with Western Powers (1794-1858)	"	45
Dr. Evans	UC Berkeley Professor	"	48
Sakurai's	Family of Marion's husband	"	48
Kiyo	Sister-in-law	48	
Grant	Husband	"	49
Andy	Brother-in-law	"	49
Grace	Sister in law	"	50

<u>NAME</u>	<u>IDENTIFICATION</u>	<u>SOURCE OF IDENTIFICATION</u>	<u>PAGE INTRODUCED</u>
Lily	Sister in law	"	50
Harriet	Sister in law	"	50
Pat	Brother in law	"	50
Mary	Sister in law	"	50
Mary	Sister in law	"	50
Lois	Sister in law	"	50
Kathy	Daughter	"	52
Tanya	Daughter	"	52
Harvey	Tanya's husband	"	53
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